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The writer has evidently said what he felt like saying and in the manner he cares most for. He does not hesitate to take an entire page to tell how he maneuvered to reach Kokomo in order to meet a lecture engagement, or to reproduce verbatim a conversation of half a century ago about what may seem to the reader to have been a trivial topic. Some of these conversations and questionings remind one of George Borrow in their naïveté. Mr. Mowry has positive feelings about religious matters. He evidently felt better about his old schoolmate, Dr. W. T. Harris, after the latter had told him, "Christianity is absolute truth fighting against error, and always has been." He compares commencement days in 1885 at Harvard University and Bates College. In the former case, "So far as I observed these orations might have been given in a Mohammedan or a Brahmin college." In the latter, "On the contrary, the next day at Bates College, I think there was some sentiment decidedly religious and Christian in every one of the orations delivered."

No chapters are more interesting than those upon Dr. Taylor and Andover. Mr. Mowry places Dr. Taylor at the head of the list of American teachers and compares him to Arnold of Rugby. "Dr. Arnold's pupils became the leaders of thought and action in Great Britain; Dr. Taylor's disciples, perhaps to a greater extent, have led American life in thought, in letters, in governmental circles, in the colleges and seminaries, and in business life."

One must not let any aspect of the book lead him to overlook the pioneer work done by the author in school hygiene, grading, promotion, methods of teaching, course of study, summer-school development, educational journalism, and a host of other important advances on account of which we are better off today.

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*A Textbook of Practical Physics.* By WILLIAM WATSON. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1906. Pp. 626. Illustrated. \$2.60.

This excellent book is neither a textbook nor a laboratory manual in its strictest sense, but is rather in the nature of a combination of the two. It is intended for second- and third-year students in college. The following sentences from the preface indicate the plan and scope of the book. "The experiments described are not intended for a beginner, but are suited for a student who has already spent a little time in the laboratory and worked through a more elementary course of experiments, such as those described in the author's *Elementary Practical Physics*. It is hoped that teachers and students will find that all the experiments which can be performed with advantage in a laboratory having ordinary equipment are described. In almost every case the descriptions and hints apply to any pattern of apparatus, no attempt being made to give elaborate instructions for working some particular form of instrument. It is hoped, however, that the figures will be found of assistance by teachers when making apparatus needed to perform many of the experiments. The aim of the book is to draw attention to those points which require care, and to indicate the sources of error which are common to all the instruments which are likely to be employed."

There are thirty-four chapters as follows: "Methods Used in the Reduction and Discussion of the Results of Physical Measurements;" "Measurements of Length;" "Weighing;" "Density;" "Elasticity of Solids;" "The Pendulum—Measurement of 'g' and Rating of a Chronometer;" "Surface Tension and Viscosity;" "The Barometer;" "Thermometry;" "Expansion of Solids and Liquids;" "Thermal Expansion of Gases;" "Calorimetry;" "Calorimetry—Latent Heat;" "Vapor Pressure;" "Vapor Density—Freezing and Boiling Points of Solutions;" "Melting Point—Ratio of Specific Heats—Conductivity;" "Sound;" "Refractive Index;" "Dispersion and Wave-Length Measurements;" "Interference;" "Lenses and Mirrors;" "Polarized Light;" "Photometry and Color Vision;" "Measurement of the Earth's Magnetic Field;" "Adjustment and Use of Galvanometers;" "Measurement of Resistance;" "The Resistance of Electrolytes;" "Measurement of Electromotive Force;" "Resistance Thermometers and Thermo-Junctions;" "Measurement of Current;" "The Ballistic Galvanometer and Measurement of Capacity;" "Measurement of Self- and Mutual Induction;" "Permeability;" "The Quadrant Electrometer."

The appendix is valuable, giving directions for simple glass-blowing, making quartz fibers, silvering mirrors, etc., and containing a series of twenty-eight tables of constants.

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*Mathematical Geography.* By WILLIS E. JOHNSON. New York: American Book Co., 1907. Pp. 336. \$1.00.

The author has tried to gather "subject-matter . . . scattered [*sic*] about in many works." The reviewer, after carefully reading the whole book and testing parts of it, is glad to record his belief that the attempt is a success and that teachers will find here an intelligible account of the main mathematico geographic features of the earth, as far as they admit of simple explanations. It will be very useful to those for whom it was written.

The topics treated are: the earth's form, rotation, and revolution; latitude, longitude, time, calendar, seasons, tides, map-projections, surveys, and the earth in space. The language is for the most part clear enough, if we remember that such a work is not likely to be taken up by the casual reader or anyone who is unwilling to give it close study. Map-projections are among the most troublesome parts of mathematical geography and the treatment here given will enable anyone actually to construct all the usual ones if he be persistent. The beginner will find some difficulties that might have been avoided by a little more attention to his state of mind, as for instance in such a simple matter as finding by trial the center from which to describe a circle that shall pass through three given points. Theoretically anyone who has "had" geometry can do it at once. Practically a hint or two comes like water in a thirsty land. The figures, too, would be more helpful if they were drawn according to the prescriptions of the text. Probably the publishers are to blame for such figures as 65 and 67, where the spacing of parallels is obviously *not* what the construction requires. So too of 69, 70, 71, and 72, with others. They are purely impression-